

HOUSE RESOLUTION 261

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Edgar Wilson Evins of Lebanon.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Edgar “Eddie” Wilson Evins; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Evins was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Evins attended Columbia Military Academy, Lebanon High School, and David Lipscomb College, before heroically and honorably serving in the United States Navy as a ship photographer for the USS Hornet and the USS Leyte; upon release from his military service, he returned to Tennessee and studied business at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, a self described “country banker,” he spent a long, distinguished, and illustrious career in the banking industry, presiding with acumen and alacrity as president of the DeKalb County Bank for thirty years, earning the admiration and appreciation of his colleagues and customers alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, evincing the greatest integrity in all his chosen endeavors, Mr. Evins was also a distinguished businessman and entrepreneur, operating the Sligo boat dock on Center Hill Lake and co-owning the Wilson County Fair in Lebanon, and he was partner with his best friend Charlie Doak in a small service station in Lebanon; and

WHEREAS, with his keen business insight and tremendous acumen, he was instrumental in the creation of Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores and honorably served on the Board of Directors as a founding director for thirty years; and

WHEREAS, deeply involved in his community, Eddie Evins lent his time and energies to a number of civic and philanthropic organizations, dedicating to each his coveted leadership style; he was a co-founder and original board member of Friendship Christian School, and he devoted countless hours to the establishment and daily operation of the College Street Fellowship House, a facility designed to help those battling addictions find the pathway to recovery; and

WHEREAS, a consummate public servant, he was appointed by Governor Buford Ellington to the Tennessee State Game and Fish Commission, serving with the utmost professionalism and diligence not only as a member, but also as chairman, winning the unbridled respect of the Governor and the citizens of Tennessee alike for his exceptional leadership abilities and outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Evins was an active and devout member of College Hills Church of Christ and Alexandria Church of Christ, serving both churches faithfully as a Sunday school teacher for many years; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Eddie Evins enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Gloria Jean Evins, and was the proud and loving father of Edgar Wilson Evins, Jr., and wife, Kim, Grayson Evins, and Karlen Rose Evins; and his stepchildren, Chadwick Jackson Hayes and Ashley Barrington Hayes; and

WHEREAS, he is also survived by his former wife and mother of his children, Nancy Alley Evins, and his former daughter-in-law, Pam Gattis Farmer; and

WHEREAS, he will be fondly remembered by his grandchildren, Tiffany Taylor Evins and Shannon McCartney Evins; and his step-grandchildren, Grayson Propst and Jack Propst; and

WHEREAS, he will also be sorely missed by his siblings, William Jackson Evins, Jr., Myrtie Ann Evans Doak, and Danny Wood Evins, along with a host of family, friends, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Edgar Wilson Evins leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Edgar “Eddie” Wilson Evins, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Edgar Wilson Evins.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.